



Opera Guild of Southern Arizona

The Guild Voice
September 2018

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Four UA Sopranos Study in Orvieto, Italy

by Clara Salomon



Four UA sopranos flew to Orvieto, Italy, in late May, the first music students to participate in UA's study-abroad program. They completed a five-week course of study with Dr. Andrew Stuckey. Three of the students are familiar to Opera Guild audiences:



Emily Garcia



Kristen Lucas



Bridget Marlowe

Senior Emily Garcia, [undergraduate winner](#) of the 2018 *Quest for the Best*, Coloratura soprano and master's candidate Kristen Lucas, also a 2018 *Quest* participant; and undergraduate soprano Bridget Marlowe, who likewise performed at the 2018 *Quest*. All three have received assistance from OGSA in the form of grants, scholarships, and/or *Quest* prize money.

Lauren Ludovico, the fourth participant, is an undergraduate music minor with a background in musical theater.

The high points of the study program were two concerts open to the public. The first concert filled a local restaurant to overflowing. Word spread, and the second concert was held in the 14th-century Palazzo del Popolo (shown above), drawing a sizable crowd and a favorable local review. The city of 20,000 looks forward to hosting the singers again.

OGSA is proud to have helped the three music majors to experience this unique program through grants, scholarships, and/or prize money. Read more about the program and the singers' activities [on our website](#).



First Opera Previews Set; New OV Location

by Betty Allen



The 2018-19 previews in Oro Valley, **Say Hello to Opera**, have a new day, time, and location. Thanks to the mayor and town council, they will take place in the **Council Chambers** (across the parking lot from the Library) at **2:00 p.m. on Mondays**. *Brownbag Opera* previews in Tucson continue to enjoy the hospitality of Grace–St. Paul's Episcopal Church at noon on Fridays. At this location we provide beverages and dessert. Just bring a bag lunch.

As usual, the Opera Guild will preview all five Arizona Opera productions in both Tucson and Oro Valley. Our first preview, *Spotlight on Tucson Opera*, also includes two other operas to be performed this season in Tucson. The three parts of the program are:

- Betty Allen will tell the story of Arizona Opera's passionate [Maria de Buenos Aires](#). Korby Myrick will sing the sultry "Yo soy Maria" aria.
- Korby Myrick will illuminate *Adriana Lecouvreur*, to be performed by her new opera company.
- Professor Cynthia Stokes, director of the UA Opera Theater, will preview UA's [fall opera](#), *La hija de Rappaccini*, with the 2018 *Quest for the Best* [undergraduate winner](#), soprano Emily Garcia. Dr. Kyungsun Choi will accompany.

The times and places for this triple-header are:

- "Say Hello to Opera" – Monday, September 24, 2:00 pm, Oro Valley Council Chambers
- "Brownbag Opera" – Friday, September 28, noon, Grace–St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The remaining previews, all of AZOpera productions, are listed below.

Tucson

Grace–St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Fridays at noon (bring a lunch)

Charlie Parker's Yardbird, Nov. 9
La Traviata, January 25
Silent Night, March 1
The Marriage of Figaro, April 5

Oro Valley

Town Council Chambers
Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

Charlie Parker's Yardbird, Nov. 5
La Traviata, Jan 21
Silent Night, February 25
The Marriage of Figaro, April 1



OGSA Assistance Enables Summer Study

by Betty Allen

This summer, OGSA Grants totaling \$6500 enabled a record number of UA voice students attend summer opera programs in the U. S., Mexico, and Europe. In addition, Jordan Murillo (undergraduate) and Carlos Feliciano (graduate) were each honored with \$1,000 OGSA Scholarships, and Pima College student Jamie D. Grigsby was given the OGSA Encouragement Award of \$250. Adding in \$10,600 awarded at this year's Quest for the Best, your Opera Guild donations provided almost \$20,000 to enhance the education of our future opera singers!

As noted in the lead article, UA offered opera study abroad for the first time, as part of the broader UA program in Orvieto, Italy. Dr. Andrew Stuckey presided, and [Quest winner Emily Garcia](#) attended, as did Kristen Lucas and Bridget Marlowe. Kristen also participated in the AIMS opera program in Graz, Austria. Athena Beebe attended Prague Summer Nights.

The opera festival in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, was the destination for mezzo-soprano [Kaitlin Bertenshaw](#) (2018 *Quest* second place graduate). She sang operatic roles and auditioned for an international competition.

Back in the U.S.A., baritone [Mark Hockenberry](#) (2018 *Quest* second place graduate) and Simon Faddoul performed at Opera in the Ozarks. [Emma Petersen](#), lyric soprano (2018 *Quest* third place undergrad), and Jordan Murillo, bass-baritone, joined UA Opera Theater Director Cynthia Stokes at the Taos Summer Opera Institute. Brianna Barnhart attended the Ohio Light Opera program, singing operatic arias, Gilbert and Sullivan, and musical theater. [Frannie Barrows](#), coloratura soprano (2018 *Quest* second place undergrad), covered the role of the Queen of the Night at Chicago Summer Opera.

All of these promising opera students were able to enhance their musical education this summer because of you. Thank you, OGSA members and friends, for your generous donations!



Two Special Opera Events Offered in October

Two extra-special operatic events will take place in late October. We'll give you more info in the next *Guild Voice*, but meanwhile, lovers of opera should not miss either one. Save the dates!

Free UA Vocal Arts Showcase

The Fred Fox School of Music has packaged two annual UA vocal competitions: the Marguerite Ough for women and the Larry Day Memorial for men; a new competition for high school singers; and a gala concert honoring the winners, into one spectacular showcase of music on Sunday, October 28. All events are free!

Opera in the Sculpture Garden



Building upon last year's success, the Opera Guild is again collaborating with the Jewish Community Center and the Fred Fox School of Music vocal department to reprise this outdoor concert in one of Tucson's magical places, the J's lovely sculpture garden. The program will be

held on Tuesday, October 30, beginning at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10, either in advance from the J, or at the door.

The first part of the program features excerpts from two fascinating operas: Daniel Catàn's *La hija de Rappaccini*, based on a Nathaniel Hawthorne short story, *Rappaccini's Daughter*, and Michael Ching's *Speed Dating Tonight!* Neither work has been heard in Arizona to date, but UA Opera Theater will present *La hija de Rappaccini* on November 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. Many of the student singers at both the concert and the full performances will be Guild audience favorites.

In the second part, FFSOM faculty and advanced students will perform popular arias chosen by the audience. We'll explain in the next issue. Light refreshments will be served after the program.



Keep Up With Opera: Renew Now!

This is a gentle reminder that Opera Guild membership renewals are due. If you enjoy our newsletter, previews, and special events, and want to stay informed of all things operatic in Southern Arizona, please help us keep supporting our wonderful student singers. You may renew your membership securely online, by mail (PO Box 64327, Tucson, AZ 85728), or by phone to our membership chair, Cindy Hagerman (520-661-3483). Thank you!



Operatic Events through October

OGSA Previews: *Spotlight on Tucson Opera*

- "Say Hello to Opera" – Monday, September 24, 2:00 pm, Oro Valley Council Chambers
- "Brownbag Opera" – Friday, September 28, noon, Grace–St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Arizona Opera: [*Maria de Buenos Aires*](#)

October 6, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 7, 2:00 p.m. Temple of Music and Art.
[Ticket information](#)

UA Vocal Arts Showcase

October 28, Fred Fox School of Music. Free

MET Live in HD -- now at [five theaters](#) in Southern AZ

Verdi: *Aida*, Saturday, October 6, 12:55 p.m.

Saint-Saëns: *Samson et Dalila* Saturday, October 20, 12:55 p.m.

Puccini: *La fanciulla del West* Saturday, October 27, 12:55 p.m.

Opera in the Sculpture Garden

Jewish Community Center, October 30, 3:00 p.m. \$10

[Visit our website](#)